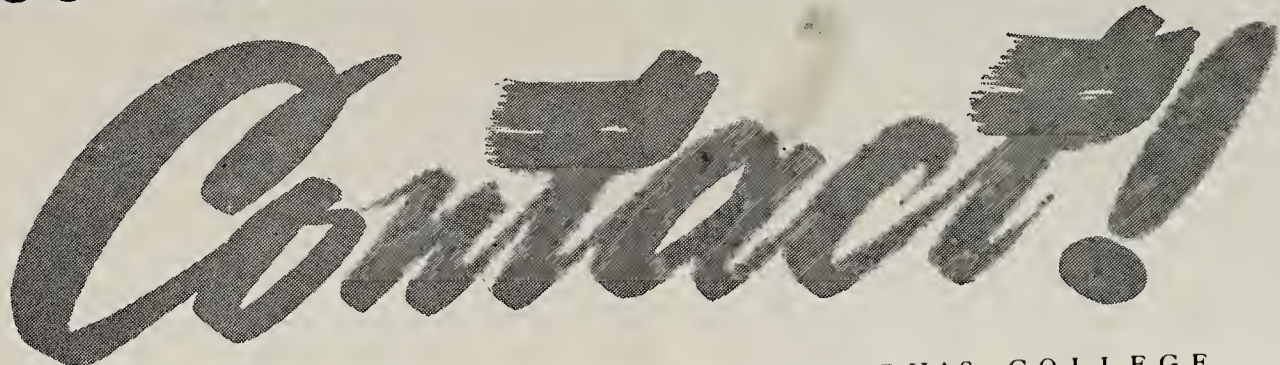


St. Joe Draws in Aluminum Quagmire

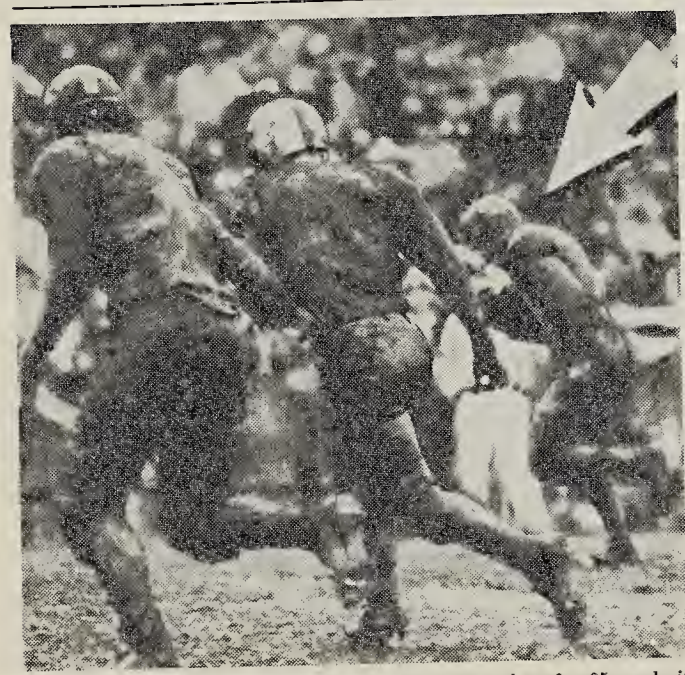


Special
Aluminum
Bowl
Football
Issue

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FOR THE ALUMNI OF SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

VOL. 19 — No. 2 Collegeville, Indiana Aluminum Bowl Edition 1956



PUMA FULLBACK Mike Murphy breaks into the clear for 35 yards in St. Joe's only serious touchdown bid of the day. He was pulled down by Ron Warzeka, at far left, on MSC 15. No. 10 is Puma quarterback Ralph Tite.

Word Is Frustration As Air Attack Is Submerged

For the first time in your life you merit a chance, because of your talent, to appear in the big time, before the nation's eye. So you prime for it for six weeks—you practice and drill, and then you drill and practice, in order to work up something even extra special for the big day and really give the folks their money's worth.

So the big day arrives—but because of circumstances beyond your control you have to fight just to get through the show at all, doing the best you can but necessarily forgetting about any added features you had been working on for six weeks.

What would be your reaction? Well, in the case of St. Joseph's Pumas, who went down to Little Rock to try and bring home the first small college national football championship Dec. 22 but instead ended in a mud-soaked scoreless tie with Montana State, the word was frustration.

Because of the rain, which had poured down on Little Rock all Saturday morning and through all but the last 10 minutes of the first annual Aluminum Bowl game, and because of the mud, which was oozing over the tops of the players' shoes, both teams had to stick to straight, conservative ball.

But the conditions hurt St. Joseph's worst of all because, unlike Montana State, the Pumas possessed a deadly passing attack which they couldn't employ.

The rain hurt them in other ways too. During the regular season they had employed a wide open running attack built around four fast backs who averaged seven yards a carry; but there was nothing that light, fast backs could do in Saturday's mud because they couldn't cut on the slippery turf. What's more, head coach Bob Jaaron had hoped to increase their effectiveness with



ST. JOE CENTER Jerry Selinger tells the story without saying a word as he stalks off the field, somewhat incognito, after the game.

some Chicago Bears' slot T stuff and spread planned especially for the Bowl game.

"We had put in some in-motion

Montana Holds Edge In Rushing; Murphy Stars With 129 Yds.

	SJ	MS
First downs, total	7	5
By rushing	7	5
By passing	0	0
By penalties	0	0
Yards gained rushing	148	179
Yards lost	33	18
Number plays	51	45
Yards gained passing	0	0
Passes attempted	1	2
Passes completed	0	0
Passes intercepted by	2	0
Yards gained runb'ks	0	0
Total offense	148	179
Punting average	42	40
Number punts	8	7
Punts had blocked	0	0
Yards all kicks returned	40	35
Punts returned	27	8
Kickoffs returned	13	27
Ball lost on fumbles	1	1
Number fumbles	3	2
Yards lost by penalties	25	35
Number penalties	3	3
Penetrations, 20-yd. line	1	1
First downs by periods:		
St. Joe	1	2
Montana State	1	0

RUSHING

Player	Carries	Gain	Loss	Yds	TD
Murphy	26	129	0	129	0
Banary	7	7	3	4	0
Daigle	5	14	0	14	0
Fingerhut	5	17	0	17	0
Scherschel	2	3	0	3	0
Tite	2	2	7	-5	0
O'Brien	1	0	0	0	0
Lyman	1	0	5	-5	0
Hamman	2	4	18	-14	0

Montana State

Landon	9	74	0	74	0
Edwards	10	66	0	66	0
Marinkovich	11	29	1	28	0
Rudio	2	13	0	13	0
Rada	2	3	0	3	0
Alt	11	12	17	-5	0

PUNTING

Player	Team	No	Blkd	Av
Marinkovich	MSC	7	0	40.0
Selinger	SJC	7	0	41.0
Fingerhut	SJC	1	0	48.0

PUNT RETURNS

Player	Team	No	Av	Yds	TD
Alt	MSC	3	2.7	8	0
Tite	SJC	1	9	9	0
Banary	SJC	1	4	4	0
Lyman	SJC	1	7	7	0
Hamman	SJC	2	3.5	7	0

stuff for them (Montana). I don't know whether it would have worked or not, but we didn't get a chance to use it," said Jaaron.

As a result, it was Fullback Mike Murphy up the middle almost all afternoon. The big Irishman from Winchester, Mass., was the game's workhorse with 26 carries for 129 yards, an average of five yards per run. He picked up all but 19 of St. Joe's total yardage.

Despite the fact that the teams battled almost to a standstill in every department, the Pumas might consider themselves fortunate to have come off with a scoreless tie from the standpoint that they were forced by the weather to play Montana State's game. The Bobcats had thrown only 16 passes all year and had depended on their running game, so the weather did not hurt them

(Continued on Page Two)

Foes Held Scoreless By Mud, Top Defensive Play

The nation's two topflight small college football teams—St. Joseph's Pumas and the Montana State Bobcats—met in the first annual Aluminum Bowl game Saturday, Dec. 22, for the NAIA national championship. But the only clear title went to the weather as the two teams sloshed to a scoreless tie before a national television and radio audience.

Nobody on either squad had to apologize for anything, however; despite the fact that they were drowning under a steady down-pour and were wallowing around in a sea of mud over their shoe-tops, they waged a furious defensive battle which perhaps proved their mettle far more than if they had engaged on a dry day.

Despite the weather and temperatures ranging in the chilly 40's, more than 5,000 sturdy fans, all perhaps ancestors of some duck or other, waded out to Little Rock's War Memorial Stadium. As Ernie Valachovic of the Arkansas Gazette reported, they cheered the football, the girls, the bands, and the floats but reserved their longest and loudest cheer for themselves, just for being there.

The steady rain and mud, which rendered the players undistinguishable after the first several minutes, reduced the play to straight, conservative football. The passers could not pass, the runners could not run, and it was left to the power men to drive inside and hope for the best. All the fancy stuff that both coaches had planned especially for the nation's eye had to be junked.

In order for either team to score, each had to hope for a break. But neither team, amazingly enough under the conditions, made a serious mistake and that break never materialized for either team.

St. Joe kicked off to Montana State and after two plays Montana's talented freshman quarterback, Dave Alt, attempted a pass, but it slid off his hand in the wrong direction and was grabbed by quarterback Ralph Tite on the St. Joe 30.

After a series of three plays in which St. Joe picked up four yards center Jerry Selinger punted 49 yards. On the second play Bobcat halfback Frank Landon scampered 52 yards to St. Joe's 24, one of the three long plays of the game. But two plays later

Puma halfback Ray Banary, a defensive star on this day, intercepted another Alt pass on St. Joe's five yard line.

Fullback Mike Murphy and Banary carried the ball out to the 20 before Selinger was forced to kick again.

The rest of the half developed into a punting duel between State's George Marinkovich and St. Joe's Selinger and Keith Fingerhut. The Bobcats never again got as far as the St. Joe 23 where Landon had been stopped, while the Pumas penetrated into Montana's territory but once, getting as far as the 38.

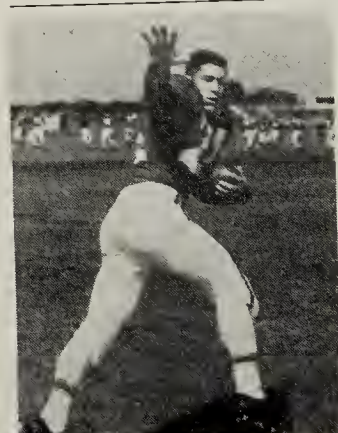
After intermission the two squads once again were unable to launch a sustained drive. After an exchange of punts Murphy

During the past season the Pumas accomplished a number of outstanding feats unique in St. Joseph's gridiron history. Therefore, in addition to the coverage contained in this special edition, final statistics, pictures and other stories concerning the remainder of these accomplishments will be found on page four of the regular issue.

fumbled and Alt recovered on the Puma 40, the first time either team had lost the ball on a bobble. This was figured to be perhaps the break needed to break the deadlock open but on the next play Alt fumbled and Puma tackle Tom Huhn recovered. For the rest of the game neither team made such a mistake.

After Huhn's recovery Murphy picked up six yards to his own 49. Murphy's number was called again, and this developed into St. Joe's only serious threat all afternoon. He found a hole outside right tackle and lumbered 35

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RAY BANARY



PAUL SCHERSCHHEL

Passing Submerged...

(Continued from Page One)
 in the passing department as it did the Pumas. Furthermore they were heavier, which was an asset in the mud, and they brought into the game a consistent-type ground attack for which they had gained the reputation of "first-downing" the opposition to death. Thus the Pumas had to do more adjusting than did the Bobcats.
 "If the field had only been dry, it would have been a much different ball game. I think we could have taken them by two or three touchdowns." This was the feeling of several St. Joe players.

"I think both teams might have scored two or three times each if it had been a dry day," said Jauron.

Even with the ball being wiped constantly, it still felt like a balloon, said Ralph Tite, St. Joe quarterback. "I couldn't grip it at all to throw, and on the hand-offs I just stuck it out there like it was on a platter. I didn't try to put it in their stomachs; I was afraid it would slip on through."

Said Jauron, "There just wasn't any use to throw. We tried it twice. Once we got a kid deep and the ball just slid out of the passer's hand, and the other time he slipped and fell down."

Jauron praised the Montana team, saying it was the best the Pumas had faced with the possible exception of Xavier, and he thought the Bobcats would have given Xavier a battle.

St. Joe's only threat came on Murphy's 35-yard jaunt down to the Montana 16. It looked for a moment like he was going to break the game wide open until he was caught from behind. Murphy explained it by saying he was caught by a player he didn't see.

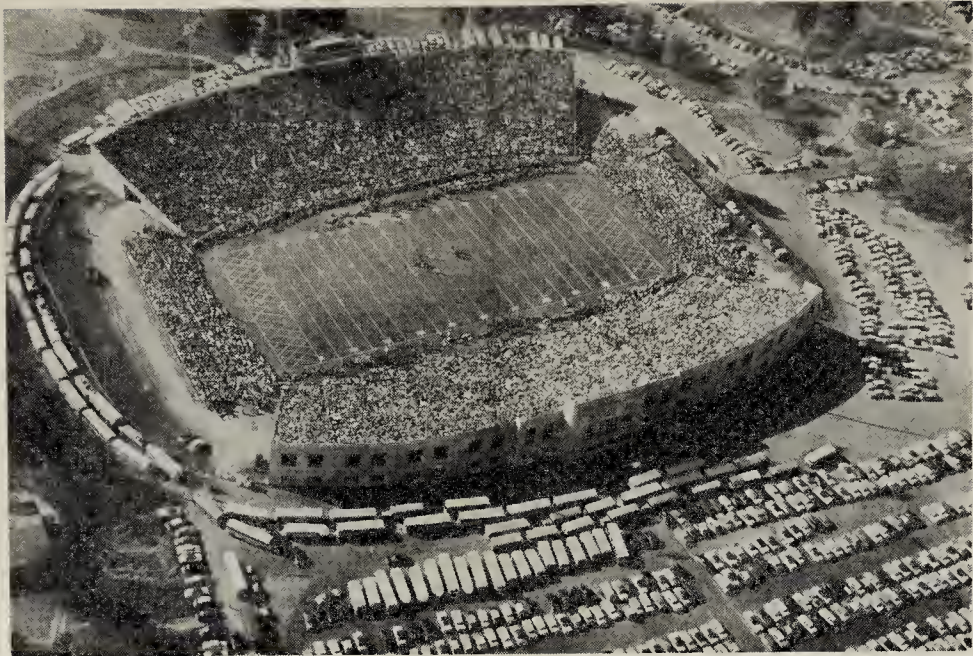
"I saw one man coming in on my left, and another way behind. I thought I could stop short and let the one on my left slide by, but there was a guy right behind me I didn't see, and that was it," he said.

Despite the conditions, it was a tremendous ball game of fundamentals. It was a good, tough battle between two outstanding defensive teams right down to the final gun. St. Joe chalked up seven first downs to the Bobcats' five. The Westerners piled up 179 yards on the ground—107 of them on two long runs—while the Pumas slogged out 148. Montana attempted two passes and St. Joe intercepted both, while the Pumas tried only one, which fell harmless. There were only five fumbles, outstanding for such conditions, and each team lost the ball only once. These plays came in succession at midfield and had no meaning at all.

Each team penetrated within the other's 20-yard line only once, and each time the attack fizzled.

Perhaps the greatest contribution to a scoreless tie of all was the sensational punting. Jerry Selinger punted seven times for the Pumas and Keith Fingerhut once for an average of 42 yards; the Bobcats averaged 40 yards on seven punts.

Joe Boland, the Aluminum Bowl telecaster who regularly works the Notre Dame and Chicago Cardinal games, remarked that, particularly in view of the conditions, the kicking was as good as he had ever seen, college or pro. He had nothing but praise for what



THIS IS A PICTURE of War Memorial Stadium, scene of the annual Aluminum Bowl, as it would have looked Dec. 22 if it had not been under water. The stadium seats some 38,000—on a good day.

Tite, Selinger, Sherwood Set Pace In Individual Awards; Five Make All-ICC

Six members of St. Joseph's national NAIA co-champions have received a truckload of individual honors never before experienced by a Puma football team. Among other awards five Pumas were placed on the All-Indiana Collegiate Conference eleven and two of these won the Most Outstanding Back and Lineman awards.

Added to the team records and statistics, St. Joe virtually made a clean sweep of the conference this year, both as a team and individually.

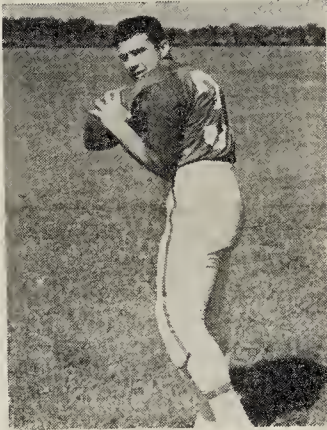
The most recent recognition has been won by quarterback Ralph Tite, a junior from Chicago. The 5-8, 160-pound signal-caller was selected to the NAIA's first team Little All-America backfield. In addition, Tite has also been named to the All-ICC squad for the second year in a row, was voted the Most Out-

he considered a superb football game.

The weather also caused complications in transportation. The train from Chicago carrying approximately 150 St. Joe students and the band arrived in Little Rock three hours late. They hopped buses and with the help of a police escort arrived at War Memorial Stadium 10 minutes after the kick-off. The whole St. Joe contingent, including rooters, players and officials, boarded a train out of Little Rock about midnight Saturday since all planes were grounded for the weekend. Most of the squad arrived in Rensselaer Sunday evening, while some took other routes to their homes for the holidays.

Coach Bob Jauron was satisfied with the performance his players had turned in, but he was particularly miffed over the fact that the Aluminum Bowl officials had spent thousands of dollars to dye the field green and then had neglected to cover it until game time to protect it from the steady downpour.

standing Back in the conference, was selected to the Midwest All-Catholic squad and received hon-



RALPH TITE

Here is the summary of St. Joe's individual honors:

NAIA Little All-America: QB Ralph Tite

A.P. Little All-America: Honorable mention-center Jerry Selinger

Catholic Little All-America: End George Sherwood, tackle Ken Bates; Honorable mention—Ralph Tite and guard Ray Knight

Midwest All-Catholic: First Team—Tite, Knight; second team—Sherwood, Selinger, halfback Ray Banary

All-Conference: Tite, Sherwood, Bates, Selinger, Banary

Most Outstanding Back in Conference: Tite

Most Outstanding Lineman in Conference: Selinger

Most Valuable Player on Squad: Banary

Co-Captains for 1956: Banary and fullback Paul Scherschel

orable mention on the Catholic Little All-America team.

Two Pumas—end George Sherwood and tackle Ken Bates—won first string berths on the Catholic Little All-America team, which is sponsored by the Brooklyn Tablet. Sherwood, a junior from Long Beach, Calif., was also a unanimous selection to the All-Conference team as well as to the second team Midwest All-Catholic, sponsored by the LaCrosse, Wis., Register.

Prior to his selection by the Tablet, Bates, a sophomore from Chicago, had won an All-Conference berth.

Guard Ray Knight, a junior from Schererville, Ind., also won honorable mention along with Tite on the Catholic Little All-America. Knight had previously won a place on the Midwest All-Catholic first team.

Center Jerry Selinger was the only Puma to win recognition on the Associated Press Little All-America, where he was given honorable mention. Selinger, a sophomore from Hamilton, Ontario, was also a unanimous All-Conference selection; was voted the Most Outstanding Lineman in the ICC; and was named to the second team Midwest All-Catholic.

The sixth man to gain extra-curricular recognition for St. Joe was halfback Ray Banary, a senior from North Judson, Ind. Banary was one of the five Pumas to win an All-Conference berth and he was also selected on the second team Midwest All-Catholic. In addition, he was voted by his teammates to succeed Ralph Tite, last year's selection, as the Most Valuable Player on the squad.

Banary and Paul Scherschel, senior fullback from Gary, Ind., were named by the squad as co-captains for 1956 and for the Aluminum Bowl game. They are the only seniors on the squad.

Pumas Tie...

(Continued from Page One)
 yards to Montana's 16 before he was overhauled by mountaneous Ron Warzeka, the 6-3, 235 pound NAIA All-American tackle.

Keith Fingerhut replaced Murphy and picked up two yards in two plays through Montana's big line. On third down Tite faded to pass but slipped and fell on the 21 for a seven-yard loss. With fourth and 15 Daigle picked up six to the 15 and the Bobcats took over.

Why Murphy Was Stopped.
 Because this was St. Joe's only serious threat of the afternoon, and because television viewers were puzzled over why Murphy appeared to stop at the 16, the play requires further explanation.

Montana's basic defense was a 6-3-2 but most of the time they shot the center linebacker into the middle leaving a 7-2-2 and some times they rotated a cornerback into the line as an extra end to make an 8-3. On Tite's handoff to Murphy the six front men closed ranks, the middle linebacker stayed back and the defense was rotated to the other side.

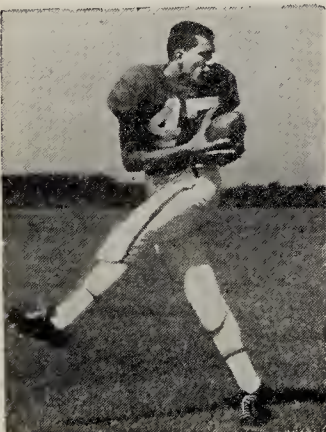
Consequently Murphy, finding his hole outside right tackle, became the only runner to be absolutely in the clear all afternoon. But when he got past the 20 the mud was beginning to slow him up and at the same time he saw two men approaching from his left. So he tried to hesitate a second and let the near one slide on by; but what he didn't see was Warzeka thundering up on his right to nail him.

The most serious threat by either side occurred when the Bobcats took over on their own 15. After two plays Alt ran outside his right tackle on a keeper to the 30, where he lateraled to fullback Don Edwards. Edwards, with three blockers in front of him, went 39 more yards before Banary once again saved the day with a tackle on the St. Joe 24. When the Bobcats drove to a first down early in the fourth quarter on the Puma 13, it looked like this might be it. But the Bobcats, trying to score against the best defensive team in the nation, could muster only two yards in three plays and were forced to try a field goal. Warzeka, who had never tried a field goal in his life, made the attempt from the 18 but it fizzled, barely reaching the end zone.

The Pumas were not out of the woods yet, however, as a penalty following two plays drove them back to their own one. Selinger again saved the day with a tremendous boot out to the St. Joe 49.

For the remainder of the final quarter the battle resumed its basic pattern near midfield, with each team exchanging punts. The game ended in weary, muddy, wet but nonetheless valiant frustration on Montana State's 41 with the Pumas doggedly on the march from their own 30.

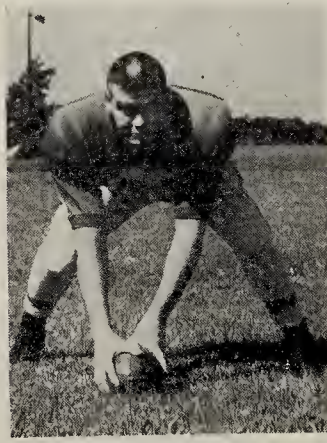
After six weeks of growing anticipation, both clubs had stubbed their hopes for a national championship on a scoreless tie. All that remained now was to scrape the mud off, a job that could, from the looks of them at the final gun, take another six weeks.



GEORGE SHERWOOD



KEN BATES



JERRY SELINGER



RAY KNIGHT